



CITY OF STOCKTON

## THE WEEK THAT WAS

Vol. 3 / No. 18

A Report from the City Manager

April 25, 2003

### **WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE INCREASES - EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2003**

The City of Stockton has not increased the monthly service rates and related fees for the Wastewater and Water Enterprise Funds since 1998 and 1996 respectively. There has been double digit Consumer Price Increases (CPI) for operating costs since the last rate increases. In the very near future the City will have to be dealing with the issue of implementing the requirements of the City's recently issued NPDES permit from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. In addition the City will have to enhance the treatment level of all well water pumped. These costs, in addition to very large increases in the Workers Compensation, Health Insurance, and PERS put the City in the position of having to initiate as part of the annual budget process a rate increase to fund increased expenditure levels.

Proposition 218 (effective in 1996) now requires that a notice be sent out to all rate payers. This will be the first time that the City has had to notice all of the rate payers

when raising water or wastewater fees. Proposition 218 also requires that the notice be sent out at least 45 days before the hearing. The tentative plan is to adopt the budget on May 27th. The current budget is being printed with the anticipated revenue increase included in the revenue estimates. Tentatively the hearing is scheduled for late June. The rates will then become effective on July 1, 2003. The rate increases that are being recommended are approximately 2 1/2% (rounded up to the closest even increment). (CM)

### **ASSET TRACKING TRAINING**

The Administrative Services - Accounting unit recently provided in-house training to the Internal Service Funds' Resource Managers and staff to facilitate and maintain the tracking and control of assets assigned to them. Resource managers and staff learned how to use the HTE fixed asset software to enter assets and to inquire about specific data for individual assets.

While use of this software increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the asset management process of controlling and safeguarding

assets, it also contributes to Accounting's primary focus on financial statement reporting and fiscal accountability. (AS)

### **FEMA FLOOD INFORMATION**

As a result of a cooperative effort between the Community Development and Economic Development Departments, as well as the GIS Division of Administrative Services, flood information can now be obtained through the Advantage Stockton tool on the City's website. In the past the Community Development Department

experienced a high volume of requests for this information, primarily from business customers, but also from homeowners. Clients may now obtain the requisite information, including Letter of Map Revision Date, Zone, and Panel number upon executing a search request using either their APN or address. (CDD)

### **SPRING CAMP**

Approximately 120 campers attended Parks and Recreation's Spring Nature Camp at four camp sites last week (McKinley, Seifert, Sierra Vista, and Stribley Community Centers).

Participants had a blast last week making Easter baskets & cards, visiting their area libraries, enjoying Mickey Grove docent Alice Hunter's 'Bugs, Bugs, Bugs' presentation, Easter egg hunting, and a grand finale 'Journey into Spring' celebration at Mickey Grove Park. The kids enjoyed the zoo, amusement rides, games, and a good old fashion cookout. Registration for Summer Discovery Camp begins May 1. (P & R)

### **INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES**

Two special dances are being held this week. Stockton Studio Dance Night is held on Friday from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Oak Park Senior Center. Dance instructor Juan Parache holds a warm-up lesson from 7:30 to 8 p.m., then open dancing begins. Fee is \$5 per person and \$8 per couple. Round Dance meets on Saturday night from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Oak Park Senior Center. Instructor Vernetta Thompson leads the open Round Dance, which is ballroom dancing to cues. This dance is also \$5 per person.

Windsurfing class is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at Lake Del Valle. The fee is \$135, which includes certification and manual, as well as use of all necessary equipment. Several dance classes end this week including Hula, Middle Eastern Belly Dance, Skater's Ballet, Introduction to Dance, and Tap and Jazz for Kids. (P & R)

### **VAN BUSKIRK EASTER FEST**

Van Buskirk Community Center held its Hip Hop Easter Festival Saturday, April 19. The event started at 1 p.m. with Easter Egg coloring, outside games, and a coloring contest. The festival concluded with an

Easter Egg Hunt. Despite having a power failure, there were 60 kids in attendance. Special thanks goes to staff members Kenya Haney, Erica Mangana, and Vanessa Fortney for keeping the kids busy during the program. VB's teen club also helped out with the games and hiding the eggs while the participants worked on their arts and crafts. (P & R)

### **McKINLEY COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS**

Children and youth spent four days last week creating Easter ornaments and decorations at McKinley Community Center. They created paper rabbits, eggs, grass, baskets, and more. Ornaments were placed on building's walls to get everyone in the mood for Easter. Easter activities started on Thursday, April 17, with Easter Bunny Crafts where kids created a bunny out of an old sock that they provided. On Friday, April 18, participants did the Easter Coloring contest and on Saturday, there was face painting and games from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. plus an Easter Egg Hunt from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All of the activities were planned for kids 2 to 12 years of age. All supplies, plastic eggs (over 1,500), candy (for the eggs), prizes (nine Easter baskets) were donated by Willy Razo's Mexican American Nature Lover's Association (MANLA). A full-time person and two part-time employees were used for this activity plus four volunteers from Franklin High and one from Delta College. Saturday's event was featured in *The Record*. (P & R)

### **POETRY CONTEST AWARDS RECEPTION DRAWS RECORD AUDIENCE**

More than 100 poets, poetry lovers, and others from throughout the Central Valley, (a record number), celebrated National Poetry Month at an awards and poetry reading reception at Barnes & Noble Booksellers Saturday, April 19.

The event concluded the seventh annual Poetry Contest sponsored by the Stockton Arts Commission. Stockton poet Paula Sheil hosted and handed out awards after winners in adult, student, and children's categories read their poems. Chapbooks containing all the winning works were sold, with proceeds benefiting next year's contest, and refreshments served. SAC opened poetry month with an appearance by Maxine Hong Kingston, the acclaimed Stockton-born author, whose most recent book is "To Be the Poet." (P & R)

### **CITY-WIDE SPORTS**

The city-wide track meet held at Delta College Saturday, April 19, went well. Participants who qualified first and second in their age group will go to San Jose to compete in the Hershey National Finals Saturday, June 21. (P & R)

### **INSUFFICIENCY OF REFERENDUM PETITION FILED BY THE CONCERNED CITIZENS COALITION OF STOCKTON REGARDING CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 03-0081 (CONTRACT WITH OMI/THAMES WATER STOCKTON)**

The City Clerk received verification of signatures regarding the referendum petition from the Registrar of Voters on Wednesday, April 23. The results of the examination were as follows:

**Number of signatures filed: 11,784**

**Number of signatures verified: 11,784**

**Number of signatures found sufficient: 9,261 or 78.6%**

The referendum petition required 10,540 valid signatures to place it on an election ballot. Based on the information received from the Registrar of Voters, the City Clerk certified the referendum

petition submitted by the proponents to be insufficient. The Declaration of Insufficiency is on file in the City Clerk's office and will be presented to the Council as an information item at the 04-29-03 City Council Meeting. (CC)

#### **CHARTER WAY BEAUTIFICATION, PHASE 2**

Rick Armstrong Construction has completed the remaining punch list items and the Notice of Completion is being filed for the beautification improvements on Charter Way between I-5 and Center Street. A project completion ceremony is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, at the Centro-Mart, located at the corner of Charter Way and Turnpike Road. (PW)

#### **ARCH ROAD/STATE ROUTE 99 (SR99) Interchange Project**

Installation of girders for the temporary steel bridge over SR99 was recently completed. To allow this, SR99 was closed in both directions at Arch Road from 10:00 P.M., Thursday, April 17, to 5:00 A.M., Friday, April 18, and again on Monday, April 21, from 10:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. Tuesday, April 22. Detours were provided on the frontage roads on both sides of SR99. Changeable message signs, flaggers, and California Highway Patrol officers were present during the seven-hour closures to guide traffic. The temporary steel bridge will serve as the detour for traffic on Arch Road to cross over SR99 while the new single-point urban interchange is being constructed. Project completion is slated for July 2005. (PW)

#### **MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATIONS**

The contractor, Golden Bay Construction of San Carlos, has completed construction of storm drains and electrical crossings at the new corner bulb-outs. During grinding operations, underground utilities were found in the pavement section, necessitating a change in the character of the work. Field orders directing those changes have been issued by Public Works. Change orders totaling approximately \$55,000 are in progress. Demolition of the east corners of all intersections has begun and it is estimated that bulb-outs will be completed for those intersections by the end of May. To minimize impacts to the farmer's market, no work will be performed at the San Joaquin intersection on Fridays starting May 2nd. Project completion is anticipated at the end of July 2003. (PW)

#### **STOCKTON FIRES**

On Friday, April 4, there was a structure fire in a single-story, single-family residence at **1905 Telegraph Avenue**. The fire originated in the wall around the fireplace where the mortar had fallen away. No damage cost was reported.

On Saturday, April 5, there was a structure fire in a single-story, single-family group home at **8384 Cruden Street**. This was a stove fire that was extinguished on fire department arrival. Damage is estimated at approximately \$200 to the contents.

On Sunday, April 6, there was a structure fire in a single-story, single-family residence at **327 N. Pilgrim Street**. Damage is estimated at approximately \$25,000 to the structure and \$1,000 to the contents.

On Sunday, April 6, there was a structure fire in a single-family residence at **1721 Berkley**

**Avenue**. The fire was caused by a tray left on the stovetop. Damage is estimated at approximately \$100 to the stove.

On Sunday, April 6, there was a structure in a single-family residence at **8301 Bluefield Drive**. The fire was on the exterior of the house. The cause of the fire is unknown at this time. There is no dollar loss reported.

On Monday, April 7, there was a structure fire in a multi-story, multi-family residence at **15 N. Sierra Nevada Street, Apartment #1**. The fire started in the kitchen where a waffle iron had been left on and unattended. The manager provided another apartment for the family, and the Stockton Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary was notified to assist, as well. Damage is estimated at approximately \$40,000 to the structure and \$10,000 to the contents.

On Monday, April 7, there was a structure fire in a detached garage at **5143 E. Weber Avenue**. The cause of the fire is undetermined. Damage is estimated at approximately \$10,000 to the structure, \$1,500 to the contents, and \$200 to adjacent buildings.

On Monday, April 7, there was a structure fire in a multi-family residence at **839 Knickerbocker Lane**. The fire originated in the kitchen where a pot was left unattended on the stove. Damage is estimated at approximately \$5,000 to the structure and \$2,500 to the contents.

On Monday, April 7, there was a structure fire in a detached shed next to a mobile home at **2741 Robindale Avenue**. The cause of the fire is undetermined. Damage is estimated at \$500.

On Tuesday, April 8, there was a structure fire in an apartment at **1112 Stratford Circle**. The fire was caused by a wooden tray on the stove. The fire was contained to the kitchen stove. Damage is estimated to \$200 to the contents.

On Tuesday, April 8, there was a structure fire in a single-family residence at **2505 W. Fremont Street**. The cause of the fire was a pile of clothing that was next to a water heater that then spread to a mattress. Damage cost was minimal.

On Tuesday, April 8, there was a gas leak in a vacant lot at **7650 Pacific Avenue**. The cause of the gas leak was from a high-pressure, natural gas line that was broken by a construction crew. There is no estimated damage cost.

On Thursday, April 10, there was a structure fire in a single-story warehouse at **2651 Roosevelt Street**. The fire was caused by sparks from a cutting machine. Damage is estimated at \$500.

On Friday, April 11, there was a structure fire in a two-story, multi-family apartment complex at **1515 E. Bianchi Road**. The fire was caused by arson. There is no estimated damage costs.

On Saturday, April 12, there was a structure fire in a three-story, business office at **1625 W. March Lane**. The fire was caused by a candle left burning in an office on Friday evening. There was no dollar loss reported.

On Sunday, April 13, there was a structure fire near a multi-family residence at **8642 Acapulco Way**. The fire was confined to a garbage can on the sidewalk and the cause is undetermined. The dollar loss estimate is \$50.

On Sunday, April 13, there were two structure fires in an apartment complex at **1744 Quail Lakes Drive**. The fire was in a two-bedroom apartment. The cause of the fire in the kitchen was a result of a pillow left on the stove while the burners were on. The fire on the porch consisted of a pile of clothes. The cause of the porch fire is unknown at this time. There is no estimated damage cost reported.

On Sunday, April 13, there was a structure fire in a single-family residence on **Moorcroft Circle, at Carolyn Weston**. The fire was confined to a closet that was started by a 5-year-old child. No dollar loss reported.

On Sunday, April 13, there was a structure fire in a dumpster at **7931 Thornton Road**. The fire was contained to the dumpster and the cause is undetermined. There was no dollar loss reported.

On Tuesday, April 15, there was a structure fire in a multi-family residence at **7902 Montauban Avenue**. The cause of the fire was a teenage male who lit a piece of paper inside a hole in the interior wall. The dollar loss is estimated at \$2500 in structure and \$1000 to contents.

On Saturday, April 19, there was a structure fire in a single family dwelling at **2161 Raymond Avenue**. The fire spread to a fence that was near the home. The cause is undetermined. Damage is estimated at approximately \$1,000 to the fence, no dollar loss to home.

On Sunday, April 20, there was a structure fire in McDonalds at **1423 N. Center Street**. The fire was believed to have started from a mechanical failure. Damage is estimated at approximately \$1,000,000 to the building and \$50,000 to the contents.

On Monday, April 21, there was a structure fire in a single-family residence at **917 S. Adelbert Avenue**. The fire was contained to the bathroom and attic directly above it. The cause of the fire was an overheated fan. Damage is estimated at approximately \$1,500 to the structure and \$100 to the contents. (FD)

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING**

Engineer Tim Hill has been working with the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (Terrorism Consequence Management) to develop an anti-terrorism training course. This particular program is used all over the State of California. During this week we are training our officers to be better prepared for any and all acts of terrorism. Both Engineer Tim Hill and Battalion Chief Bill Costanza are part of the original curriculum development committee. It was the goal of this program to have several thousand firefighters trained by November 2003. At this point we have 600 certified trainers and 8,000 trained firefighters statewide using this curriculum. This curriculum, developed by CALJAC, is being considered as a standard for anti-terrorism response nationwide. (FD)

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

In the past week the Stockton Fire Department applied for a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant. The primary purpose of the grant is wellness and fitness to ensure healthy personnel. Improving the fitness of our firefighters will decrease cardiovascular illnesses and save lives. Implementation of a full fitness program should result in significant cost savings, as well as lower workers compensation,

disability claims, and lost work time. (FD)

### **ARSON INVESTIGATIONS**

Forty investigations were conducted in the last fourteen days:

- Seventeen structure fires were investigated: ten were accidental, one was undetermined, four were intentional, and two were children playing with matches.
- Fifteen vehicle fires were investigated: one was intentional, seven were accidental, and eight were undetermined.
- Eight outdoor fires were investigated: seven were undetermined, one was accidental, and one was intentional.

Dollar loss due to arson this year is \$427,500.

Candles were the cause of two fires: one in an office building and one in a dwelling that caught the bedding on fire while the victim slept.

The arson investigator is in the third day of teaching a State of California fire investigation class to Stockton firefighters and firefighters from other departments. (FD)

### **WEED ABATEMENT**

The City of Stockton contractor is nearing the completion of the first round of the weed abatement schedule. Numerous owners have failed to abate their weeds as agreed to, and follow-ups on all of these properties are commencing this week. Administrative Citations will be issued to ensure compliance. (FD)

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS/INCIDENTS**

During the period April 17-23 the Stockton Police Department handled 6,216

calls for service, incidents, and/or reports. (POL)

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION TEAM (CHAT)**

Inspections of the Midtown Area continue. Three preliminary inspections completed last week resulted in over 200 violations. CHAT Officers inspected a reported unlicensed foster care facility and determined the facility was legitimately licensed. Two cases were closed following reinspection where all violations had been corrected. Two businesses were cited for operating without the appropriate business license. (POL)

### **GANG STREET ENFORCEMENT TEAM**

Activities of the Gang Street Enforcement Team (GSET) during the period April 14-20 included the following:

- Field Interviews - 141
- Felony Arrests - 2
- Misdemeanor Arrests - 0
- Felony Warrant Arrests - 1
- Misdemeanor Warrant Arrests - 3
- Traffic Citations Issued - 25
- Vehicles Impounded - 7
- Firearms Confiscated - 0 (378 guns confiscated since the inception of GSET and the VCSTF)
- Parole Searches - 0
- Probation Searches - 1
- Narcotics Confiscated - 0 (POL)

### **TRUANCY**

During the week of April 14-18, 4 juveniles were processed for truancy. Year to date 931 students have been processed for truancy, with 219 repeat offenders. Statistics reflect that overall truancy has decreased by approximately 15% compared to the same time period last year. (POL)

### **AUTO THEFTS**

A fingerprint match prompted the Auto Theft Unit to conduct a probation search on April 8, in

the 9500 block of Kelley Drive. Inside the home Officers discovered property that was linked to at least 40 stolen vehicle cases. The property included registration information, personal mail, and owner's manuals from many of the auto theft cases. Two suspects were arrested at the home and efforts are underway to return the stolen property to the owners. On April 22 a detective stopped at Center and Harding in an unmarked unit when another driver challenged him to race. The detective declined the offer while checking the vehicle license number. The vehicle had been stolen from Contra Costa County. The detective followed the vehicle until marked units arrived and arrested the driver. On April 22 an Officer stopped to assist a stranded motorist. Police Headquarters advised the Officer that the car had come up as a stolen vehicle from approximately a year ago. The Officer arrested the driver. On April 23 a suspect driving an unreported stolen vehicle struck approximately six other vehicles while driving near Charter Way and Fresno Avenue. The suspect was arrested on several charges including felony DUI. This was his third DUI within the past three years. (POL)

### **NARCOTICS**

During the past two weeks the Police Impact Team received information about a subject dealing marijuana, methamphetamine, and heroin. Impact Team and Narcotics Officers contacted the suspect at his home, where they found marijuana growing. The suspect claimed he had permission to grow the marijuana from a doctor in the Bay Area. Following the man's consent to search his residence Officers found over a pound of marijuana in addition to six marijuana plants, 53 ounces of heroin, and approximately

15 grams of methamphetamine. All of these illegal drugs were packaged for sale, eliminating the suspect's claim that the marijuana was for medicinal purposes. (POL)

### **EXPLOITATION ARREST**

Police Detectives served search and arrest warrants at a home in the 2000 block of San Luis Way, based on reports of videotaped child exploitation and arrested the perpetrator. (POL)

### **HOMICIDES**

Last Friday morning Officers responding to a report of a shooting in Stribley Park found a deceased 45-year-old male victim in a parked vehicle, with at least one gunshot wound to his head. Last Friday night Officers pursued a vehicle traveling northbound on Kelley from Hammer. The fleeing suspect had been reported chasing a female victim. The suspect vehicle collided with a car traveling southbound on Kelley. The head-on-collision resulted in the death of a male driver and female passenger in the suspect vehicle, as well as the driver/sole occupant of the other car. On April 21 a 15-year-old victim and 14-year-old suspect were fighting over a broom at a home in the 3300 block of Anne. The suspect choked the victim, who lost consciousness and died. The suspect was arrested. Also on April 21 an 18-year-old male was driving at a high rate of speed northbound on Thornton when he lost control of his car and hit a tree broadside. A witness said the driver had been racing another car just prior to the accident. The driver was transported to the hospital, where he was listed in critical condition. The SWAT Team served an arrest warrant at a home in the 1200 block of East

Hazelton on April 21 and arrested the suspect of a homicide that occurred on April 2 at Caribrook and Calandria. The suspect was found hiding under a bed with a .25 caliber semiautomatic handgun. (POL)

### **SUSPICIOUS DEVICE**

A passerby spotted what looked like a stick of dynamite adjacent to the eastbound onramp off Highway 4 near Filbert. The Police Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team responded and rendered the item safe. It turned out to be a flare wrapped in tape, with a battery and a piece of wire attached, in order to look like an explosive device. (POL)

### **INJURED CHILD**

Detectives are investigating a case in which a one-year-old child, with head injuries was taken to the County Hospital, listed in critical condition, and transported by helicopter to U.C. Davis for treatment. (POL)

### **ATTEMPTED CARJACKING ARREST**

Last Saturday at approximately 2:20 a.m. a victim flagged down Officers driving by the Flamingo Club on Charter Way. She pointed out a subject who had just tried to take her car at gunpoint. The suspect was located a short distance away and arrested. (POL)

### **HOTEL/MOTEL MANAGER TRAINING**

The second Hotel/Motel Manager Training session was held last week in the Stewart/Eberhardt Building. A total of 35 managers were trained by City staff from Neighborhood Services, Fire Department, and Police Department. Trainers were also brought in from the Hotel/Motel industry and from San Joaquin County Environmental Health Services. This annual training is required as part of the Manager's Permits issued in accordance with SMC Chapter 7 and the City expects to educate a total of 150

managers. For their convenience four classes will be held each year and the next class is scheduled for July 16, 2003. (HRD)

### **SEPTIC TANKS IN BOGGS TRACT**

There are six detached living units on two parcels which were at one time hooked up to the same septic system. About six months ago the septic system fell into disrepair and exceeded its capacity. San Joaquin County Department of Environmental Health allowed the property owner to defer permanent repairs of the system until this spring and, in the meantime, a temporary plan was approved and implemented. A re-inspection was conducted on April 18<sup>th</sup> which found the temporary fix had failed. Subsequently a Notice of Violation was issued due to the severe health hazard and the property owner was given thirty days to fix the problem. If the property owner does not comply Neighborhood Services will vacate the units due to the public health hazard. (HRD)

### **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES MONITORING**

This week's report focuses on the Lakeview District, which encompasses the Northwest portion of the City.

#### Kelley Drive

Code Enforcement posted four Notices to Vacate, all three units at one triplex were posted for mold problems as determined by the City's Health Officer and the fourth notice was for lack of water service. Two citations were issued at other properties for Public Nuisance issues. One previously cited property has been brought into compliance and the case has been closed. Code enforcement is continuing to monitor the area for Public Nuisance and Housing Issues including

address numbers visible from the street, painting of exterior siding and trim, lawn maintenance, junk, garbage and debris, broken exterior light fixtures, fences, and approved fireplace chimney caps.

#### Colt Drive/Cody Way

Inspections conducted on 4/16/03 resulted in twelve Violation Warning Notices issued for Public Nuisance. Re-inspections of previously cited properties found nine properties were in compliance and one Administrative Citation was issued due to non-compliance. Three properties are being constantly monitored for parking on unapproved surface.

#### Antoine Ct.

Code enforcement activities resulted in issuing two Violation Warning Notices to properties for lack of yard maintenance. Re-inspections of previously cited properties found one in compliance and the other properties are being monitored for possible business operating in an R-1 Zone.

#### Brush Creek

Abatement activities are completed along the vacant land on the east side of I-5 and the west side of Brush Creek. The area will continue to be monitored for compliance.

#### Country Club area

Staff is working in this area, with support from other departments within the City of Stockton, for Public Nuisance violations, and sub-standard housing problems. The property owners have been cooperating with staff and compliance is being obtained.

#### Pershing and Crown Street

Proactive activities conducted on 4/16/03 along Pershing Street between Brookside

Rd. and El Monte St. resulted in eight Violation Warning Notices being issued for various public nuisance violations including junk, garbage and debris, and yard maintenance. (HRD)

#### **NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK**

The City of Stockton again celebrates National Community Development Week on April 21st through the 27<sup>th</sup>. A proclamation was presented to the committee chair of the Community Development Committee at Tuesday nights' City Council meeting and a static display was setup in the City Hall lobby this week.

The Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) was enacted into law as part of the 1974 Housing Act and began operations in 1975. CDBG is an entitlement program that provides grants to eligible jurisdictions, such as the City of Stockton. CDBG's main purpose is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities to low and moderate-income persons.

To this day CDBG remains the principal source of revenue for localities to address affordable housing issues, rebuild neighborhoods, and to tackle other important community development needs. Since 1975 the City has provided over \$70 million in CDBG funds to support programs and projects in Stockton. (HRD)

#### **INSPECTIONS**

Emergency Repair Grant inspections were performed to replace the roof coverings at 510 S. David Avenue and 601 Diane Avenue. Bids for the Diane Avenue project have been received.

A complete inspection was performed at 8364 Neubourg Drive in the Fox Creek Safe Stockton neighborhood to determine the level of

rehabilitation required. Bids for this owner-occupied project will be requested in the near future.

The recent inclement weather has prevented the ongoing inspections of the major rehabilitation projects because work on the exteriors was not possible. (HRD)

#### **CDC MEETING**

The City's Community Development Committee held a meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup> to review the issue of a proposed change to the 2002-2003 One-Year Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. These changes include furthering the development of the downtown waterfront area. This development will entail the submission of a new application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for up to \$12.5 million in Section 108 Loan Guarantee funds. Mark Briggs of Mark Briggs & Associates gave an informational presentation to the CDC, elaborating on the eligible uses of Section 108 Loan funds, the City's previous uses of Section 108 Loan funds, the application process for new funds, and proposed repayment schedule, should funds be awarded. The proposed use of the new Section 108 funds is the Stockton Events Center (arena and pedestrian bridge), South Shore Development Area (waterfront promenade and pedestrian bridge), and State Office Building (acquisition and site improvements). Accompanying the Section 108 application will be a Brownfields Economic Development Initiative Grant (BEDI) application to cover the interest debt repayment for the first three years of the new Section 108 Loan. Upon review of the materials

presented a motion was made and carried to recommend to the City Council that the application submission be approved.

Additionally at the meeting staff proposed to the CDC the transfer of \$5 million in previous Section Loan funds from the Multi-Modal Project to the Downtown Cineplex Project and the transfer of up to \$250,000 in Economic Development Initiative (EDI) grant funds from the Multi-Modal Project to the Fox Theatre Renovation Project. Again, after review of staff's presentation, motions were made and carried recommending to the City Council that both transfers be approved. The amendment to the 2003-04 Action Plan, proposed submission of the new Section 108 Loan/BEDI grant application, and transfer of funds will be presented to City Council on May 6, 2003.

The final item on the meeting's agenda was the review of staff's technical adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 One-Year Action Plan Budget presented to the City Council at its April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting for adoption. Following a brief discussion a final motion was made and carried to approve all technical adjustment as presented by staff. (HRD)

#### **LIBRARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS REVIEW**

Library Director Nicky Stanke is one of the evaluators for scholarships given by the California State Library. The program, Public Library Staff Education Program, evaluates applicants already employed in California public libraries who are attending or plan to attend a graduate School of Library and Information Science. The applications include essays, work history and experience,

community services, special skills, and letters of recommendation. (LIB)

#### **CHAVEZ LIBRARY FIRE ALARM**

On Monday Library staff met with Deputy Fire Chief Carl Eck and Bob Evans, Fire Protection Systems, to address continuing problems with the Chavez Central Library ADT fire alarm/smoke detection system and to clarify Library and Fire Department procedures during fire alarm response calls. (LIB)

#### **LIBRARY MANAGER ON CHAMBER COMMITTEE**

Library Division Manager Ken Yamashita has been appointed to the Central Valley Asian-American Chamber of Commerce Advisory Committee. The committee advises the CVACC Board of Directors on activities and programs that involve and empower the Asian Pacific American community. Dennis Lee, CVACC Executive Director, made the one-year appointment. (LIB)

#### **CITYWIDE TUTOR CELEBRATION**

Patty Wong, Deputy Director of Library Services, was the emcee for an event on Wednesday to honor over 300 tutors for their work in creating brighter futures for thousands of Stockton children through tutoring and homework enrichment. The event was at Weber Point and was sponsored by the Anderson Y Center. (LIB)

#### **HOMETOWN BUFFET SUPPORTS SUMMER READING CLUBS**

Hometown Buffet is providing reading awards and passes to use as incentives for this year's Teen and Children's Summer Reading Clubs. Passes and awards contain a coupon for a free meal for a child/teen accompanied by a paying adult. A representative of Hometown Buffet and the Bee mascot will also visit the various library

branches to pass out the passes and awards. (LIB)

#### **SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON**

Library Services Director Nicky Stanke attended the inaugural Outback Steakhouse Scholarship Luncheon on Thursday. The Outback Steakhouse and the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce Business Education Alliance (BEA) sponsored the fundraising event to generate scholarships for graduating high school seniors who exhibit the qualities of "hospitality, sharing, quality, fun, and courage in their daily lives." Each scholarship will provide \$250 to winners enrolled in a program of higher education. (LIB)

#### **LIBRARY HELPS ABC WITH RESEARCH**

On Tuesday morning an ABC truck pulled into the back parking lot of the Chavez Central Library and network staff requested assistance with some research. Essentially information was needed for background to a story the network was planning on Laci Peterson and the controversial issues that have developed over the legitimacy of fetal homicide charges against Scott Peterson. Reference Supervisor Debra Furtado assisted the network researchers with their project. In 1970 a Supreme Court decision held that a Stockton man (Robert Keeler) couldn't be prosecuted for murder of his unborn child because the Legislature had probably meant "human being" to mean someone who had been born alive. Outrage ensued and the California Legislature amended the murder statute to its current form, which describes the crime as "the unlawful killing of a human being, or a fetus, with malice aforethought" (Penal Code 187).



The crew was here for about ninety minutes and was very appreciative when they left. The reporter (Jake) was not sure when or if the story was going to air, but he was completely satisfied with the thoroughness, immediate attention and cooperation they had received. (LIB)

#### **SNEAK PREVIEW – EMPLOYEE BREAK ROOM**

You may have noticed a new door with a view in the old GIS office space in the basement. In the near future this door will take you into the new City Employee Break Room. The room will feature a wall mural of an Italian country scene painted by an in-house artist, Stephanie Morales. In addition to a lunch table and small work space, the room will have a comfortable sofa to relax on. Keep an eye out for the "Welcome" sign. (CM)

#### **www.stocktongov.com**

The City's website now has a page dedicated to the men and women from Stockton who are serving as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. This page is in support of the resolution recently passed by the City Council. We are asking families of those serving during this military conflict to email photos and information to us so we may post their photos on the City's website. All submissions should be emailed to [webmaster@ci.stockton.ca.us](mailto:webmaster@ci.stockton.ca.us).

Cathy Sloan attended the Sunrise Rotary meeting where she spoke about the new look of the City's website and opportunities to purchase sponsorship ads on the website.

Stats for the first quarter of 2003 (January - March) are now available for the City website. During that time period, the website logged 5,473,910 hits. There were

517,692 visitor sessions. The website averaged 3,000 visitor sessions a day. The numbers continue to increase. The complete statistical report can be viewed on-line at <http://www.stocktongov.com/stats/Q1-2003/> (CM)

#### **CITY COUNCIL SALARY SETTING COMMISSION**

At their meeting of April 24 the Salary Setting Commission decided to recommend to the council the following:

Mayor - \$69,403 (current San Joaquin County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors' salary) or the salary of the Board Chairman on July 1, 2003. Auto allowance and cash equivalent for health remain the same.

City Councilmember - \$22,050 (5% increase). Auto allowance to remain the same, \$300.

At this time it is our intent to bring this recommendation to council for approval on 5/20. (CM)

#### **CITY MANAGER'S MEETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS**

I held my weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly meetings with Mayor Podesto, Chief Chavez, Dan Morriss, Gary Ingraham, and Mark Madison, respectively. Mayor Podesto, Roger Storey, Laurie Montes, and I discussed theater operation. Steve Carrigan and I met with Mike Locke of the San Joaquin Partnership. Roger Storey, Terry Parker, Christine Tien, and I discussed personnel issues.

Roger Storey, Jim Glaser, and I met with Larry Mintier and Rick Rust, URS, regarding the General Plan. I attended the General Plan Consultant Kick-off meeting and the GPAT meeting.

Sara Cortes and I met with Councilmember Steve Bestolarides regarding the budget. Personnel and Fire Dept. staff and I discussed the

Fire Unit Proposal Three-Year MOU Extension. Roger Storey, Teri Bentz, Jim Giottonini, Johnny Ford, and I met with Anne Cannon from Congressman Dennis Cardoza's office to discuss the City's Appropriations Projects. I participated in the Waterfront West Action Team meeting.

I participated in the "Clean Your Files Day" event. Roger Storey, Steve Pinkerton, and I met with Manuel Lopez regarding parking assessments and motor pool building. Vice Mayor Nomura, Christine Tien, and I met with Manny Fernandez and Vince Wong. I attended the Asparagus Festival and participated in the Mayor's Celebrity Spear Throwing competition. (CM)

#### **HAVE A GOOD WEEKEND!**

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**MARK LEWIS**  
**CITY MANAGER**